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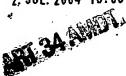
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New claims

- 1. A chemical composition comprising:
 - (a) sclerotium gum;
 - (b) a copolymer selected from the group consisting of methyl vinyl ether/ maleic anhydride copolymer and acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyriolidone copolymer.
 - (c) a suitable carrier; and
 - (d) one or more electrolytes wherein the electrolyte is an effective amount of at least one topically acceptable salt of at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula I.

(R1)(R2)NCH2CH2OH (I),

wherein in formula I, R¹ and R² independently represent hydrogen, C_{3.6} cycloalkyl or C_{1.6} alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxyl, methoxy, oxo or formyl, and/or a Vitamin C salt.

- The chemical composition according to claim 1 wherein
 component (b) comprises the ammonium salt of acryloyldimethyltamate vinylpyrrolidons copolymer.
- The chemical composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein
 the ethanolamine of formula I is a mixed glycolate/citrate salt of dimethylethanolamine.
- The chemical composition according to one of the preceding claims comprising:
 - (a) from 0.005 to 3 %, in particular from 0.005 to 1 %, of scierotium gum;
 - (b) a from 0.005 to 3 %, in particular from 0.005 to 1 %, of a copolymer selected from the group consisting of PVM / MA crosspolymer and ammonium acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer;
 - (c) a suitable carrier, and
 - (d) from 0.001 % to 5 %, in particular from 0.001 % to 3 % further in particular from 0.005 % to 1.5 %, of one or more electrolytes.
- A topical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in the preceding claims and further ingredients.
- the further ingredients comprise surfactants, emulsifiers, consistency factors, conditioners, emollients, skin caring ingredients, moisturizers, humertants, thickeners, lubricants, chelating agents, fillers, binding agents, anti-oxidants, preservatives, active ingredients, in particular dermatologically active ingredients, fragrances, dyes, and/or opacifying agents, provided that they are physically and chemically compatible with the other components of the composition.

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Wherein in formula I, R^1 and R^2 independently represent hydrogen, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} alkyl, optionally substituted with hydroxy, methoxy, oxolor formyl.

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 7 8. A formulation according to claim 6 wherein the ethanolamine of formula I is a mixed glycolate/citrate salt of dimethylethanolamine.
- 8 9. A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the electrolyte is a Vitamin C salt.
- 10. The use of a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 for manufacturing a topical or in particular a cosmetic formulation.

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<u>Claims</u>

- 1. A chemical composition comprising:
- 5 (a) sclerotium gum;
 - (b) a copolymer selected from the group consisting of methyl vinyl ether/ maleic anhydride copolymer and acryloyldimethyltaurate vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, in particular the ammonium salt of the latter; and
 - (c) a suitable carrier.

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- 2. A chemical composition according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - (d) one or more electrolytes.
- 3. A chemical composition comprising:
- 15 (a) from 0.005 to 3%, and in particular from 0.005 to 1 % of sclerotium gum
 - (b) a from 0.005 to 3 %, and in particular from 0.005 to 1 % of a copolymer selected from the group consisting of PVM / MA crosspolymer and ammonium acryloyl dimethyl taurate vinyl pyrrolidone copolymer
 - (c) a suitable carrier.

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- 4. A chemical composition according to claim 3 further comprising:
 - (d) from 0.001 % to 5 %, in particular from 0.001 % to 3 %, further in particular from 0.005 % to 1.5 % of one or more electrolytes.
- 5. A topical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in the preceding claims and further ingredients.
 - 6. A formulation according to claim 5, wherein the electrolyte is an effective amount of at least one ethanolamine derivative of formula I, or a topically acceptable salt thereof:

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$$R^1$$

N-CH₂-CH₂-OH (I),

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